

## ARRL Ad-Hoc Committee on Youth in the Second Century Report to the Board – January 13, 2012

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**Committee Charge:** Given that: (a) it is essential to enhance the League's outreach to potential Amateurs among America's youth; (b) the League's centennial in 2014 will highlight not only the accomplishments of the past but also point towards Amateur Radio's future; and (c) meaningful plans to excite young Americans about Amateur Radio today and in the future must take into account the ideas, lifestyles, and experiences of youthful Amateur Radio operators; this committee has been tasked to seek input from youth and also from adult Amateurs working with young people, and to furthermore make recommendations to the Staff and the Board of Directors on such topics.

**Members of the Committee:** Emily Bishop WE4MB, Jeremy Breef-Pilz KB1REQ, Sterling Coffey N0SSC, Nathaniel Frissell W2NAF, Joel Monza KC2SNL, Andrea Hartlage KG4IUM (ARRL Southeastern Division Vice Director), and Brian Mileschosky N5ZGT (Committee Chairman and ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Director)

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The ARRL ad hoc Committee on Youth in the Second Century, established in accordance with Minute 31 of the July 2011 Board of Directors meeting, has so far been quite active via several rounds of email correspondence and a teleconference thanks to our engaged young members who bring with them unique perspective, experience across many facets of ham radio, as well as both excitement and concern for the future of our hobby and service.

To begin fulfilling our Board-directed charge, our focus over the last several months has been on researching a variety of subjects including:

- Aspects of ham radio which appeal most to youth;
- Barriers of entry which exist for youth desiring to become a ham radio operators;
- Causes for what appears to be a large number of newly-licensed individuals (including youth) who seemingly don't get involved on the air or within the amateur radio community; and
- ARRL's current youth promotion techniques, what works well, and what can benefit from improvement

We will remain in discovery mode over the next few months and leverage what is learned during this time to craft a variety of recommendations that pertain to ham radio's legacy, future stewards, experimenters, innovators, and leaders – *youth*. A more detailed report of our findings and recommendations will be provided to the Board at its July meeting.

The ad-hoc Committee on Youth in the Second Century is grateful for the opportunity provided by ARRL's Board to work on such a crucial topic as youth and amateur radio, especially as the League prepares to embark on its second successful century.

Respectfully submitted,

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